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WHY THESE HARD TIMES?

It is a mystery to most people, and we confess to us, why, with a clear political sky, unprecedented crops, and peace and quiet throughout the land, that there should be such a general complaint of hard times; especially stagnation in business and scarcity of money. In place of distrust and depression, there ought to be confidence and activity.

Thompson's Bank Note and Commercial Reporter, of Dec. 1st, asks this question, "What is the cause, and, more important still, what is the remedy?" and answers by saying, "The answer is simple and intelligible. Business is at a standstill in the various parts, not because there is no money, but because prices are too high. If a community makes less money, it must spend less—certainly as that water will run down hill. The process of returning towards a specie basis renders this diminution inevitable. Each individual makes less in the time of expansion, and so must spend less. The financial history of every nation that has abandoned the specie basis and resorted to paper money, exhibits precisely the same incidents. Hence prices have been sustained, while earnings have fallen; and the consequent inconvenience will continue until prices and earnings have resumed their legitimate relations. All things are too dear, and the only way to make business brisk is to make them cheap.

Of course to many the process is unpleasant. The return from delirium to sanity, from the flights of fancy to sober reality, have their discomforts; yet, if the subsequent condition is more healthy, the change must be for the better. A man who has been used to think himself worth a hundred thousand dollars does not like to find that he is worth only fifty; still, if the fifty will buy as much or more than the hundred thousand, he need have no regrets. We repeat, prices of all commodities should come down. We have been, financially speaking, in the clouds long enough, and it is high time that we should descend and stand once more upon a solid foundation."

NEBRASKA ELONGATED.

The editor of the *Democrat*, in his last issue is guilty of one of the most dastardly acts ever performed by a journalist in a civilized community: in the character and animus of his reference to the sad and unfortunate condition of Judge Sanders. It is a disgrace to the pen that wrote, or the heart that indited it, and a libel upon this community, irrespective of party, or associations, or affiliations of any kind. To charge that any man or men in this community are anxious for the death of Judge Sanders, and are scrambling for the position his death might vacate, is a slander unprecedented, and is, as it justly should be, so declared and regarded by every man who has read it. Shame on such an act.

That other journals in the State may not be led astray in this matter, we state that the question of even resigning, has never been mentioned to Judge Sanders, either directly or indirectly. Judge Sanders has many warm personal friends in every part of this country, who sympathize deeply with him and his family in their heavy affliction. They have given evidence of the sincerity of these sympathies by visiting him and rendering him all the comforts possible. This editor not knowing how to appreciate such acts of kindness, has the audacity to charge that "a cloud of political cormorants hover around and besiege the bedside of a dying man trying to wring from his unconscious body some delicious utterance that they might construe into a resignation of a coveted position."

"The African hyena has always been an emblem of horrible loathsomeness, because it ravishes the resting place of the dead and riots on human corpses. To what then, shall we liken these creatures who would feast on their unhappy victim before the pangs of dissolution were finished?"

Was type and printer's ink ever made to perform such unworthy tasks?

We were gratified to have our old friend and Legislative colleague of yore, Hon. S. A. Chambers—famously known as "Uncle Sammy"—call on us yesterday and spend an hour in social chat. Mr. Chambers is now in his 71st year, and really looks younger than he did when we first made his acquaintance, fifteen years ago; smokes that same old pipe, and is that same genial, social "old country gentleman."

The Tumach Chief said the Iron bridge across the Nemaha at that place was finished ready for crossing last Saturday. It is 130 feet in length substantially constructed in every particular, and is by far the best bridge we know of in Southern Nebraska. The entire cost of the bridge is about \$3,200.

Before Judge Dundy's Court, at Omaha, one of the Quaker Indian Traders was tried on an indictment for "introducing spirituous liquor into the Indian country," in violation of the "law in such cases made and provided." The Omaha papers do not give the result of the trial.

DEATH OF JUDGE SANDERS.

The painful duty devolves upon us, to announce the death of Judge DANIEL C. SANDERS, who died Dec. 16th, at 6 o'clock p. m., at his residence, Sanders, Mills, Lafayette Precinct, in this county. He died from the effects of wounds received a few weeks since, by being accidentally caught in a circular mill saw, the particulars of which we have heretofore given.

D. C. Sanders, was born in Shelby county, Indiana, March 13th, 1830, and at the time of his death was in his 41st year. He settled in this county near Nemaha City, on the farm now owned by J. H. Drain, in '55, and has been a resident of this county continuously since. We have known him intimately for fifteen years, and take pride in saying he has ever been regarded as one of the first men in the county, in all respects. He has repeatedly filled positions of honor and trust in the county and State. He has served for years each, as county Commissioner, Probate Judge and Representative in the Legislature; was one of the Representatives elect from this county at the time of his death. He has always been a strictly moral religious upright man; an exemplary member of the Methodist church for years. He together with a few others had recently formed a small church organization, near the Mills, where they worshipped regularly. He was also a member of the Peru Lodge A. F. & A. M., and will be buried tomorrow with the ceremonies of the Order. While suffering intensely from the nature of his wounds, he has borne all with the most perfect Christian resignation; indulging the hope until within a few days that he would yet recover. His thoughts and conversation, has principally been of a religious character; constantly cheerful and buoyant, under the influences of an abiding faith in Him who doeth all things well, and died in the full triumph of that Faith. Nemaha county has met with no greater loss in her whole history.

THEY HAVE AN EXHIBITION AT OMAHA, A SECTION OF THE ORIGINAL "BIG TREE" OF CALIFORNIA.

The Sidney (Nebraska) Press says: "From information received from a reliable gentleman of this town, we are led to believe that copper, in paying quantities, has been found within a short distance of Sidney. As the parties interested are very reticent, we must await patiently further developments."

There are quite a number of places in this State, where both "copper" and "brass" can be found in abundance.

Queen Victoria and daughters have four special dressmakers between them.

Paper clothing is made in China and Japan. A coat costs ten cents, and a whole suit a quarter of a dollar.

What is the most profitable business? Shoemaking—because every pair of shoes are sold before they are finished.

There said to be 150,000 bushels of wheat in store and awaiting shipment at the wharves of the Southern Minnesota Railroad.

Logansport, Ind., has 167 manufacturing establishments, turning out annually \$2,500,000 worth of manufactured articles.

A London journal advertises an airplane which will carry two or three persons, when uninflated, can be packed in a note envelope.

An acre of land has been sold in the city of London for \$3,600,000, and in nearly every portion of the city land is said to be increasing in value every year.

Jem Macie is playing in "As you like it," at Niblo's, taking the part of Charles, the Wrestler.

San Francisco juryman take revelry into court, and threaten to kill any juror who will not agree to a verdict.

The project of admitting women to the Medical University at Edinburgh has received the express disapproval of the Queen.

Robert D. Stockton, son of the New York Governor, who is now in England, failed in his effort to cowhide a Trenton editor a fortnight ago, has gone to Europe.